

1 WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method for processing data in a processor with an instruction,
2 wherein the data is related to an array of elements, the method comprising steps of:
3 loading a first value from a first location;
4 loading a second value from a second location;
5 comparing the first and second values to each other;
6 optionally storing a predetermined value in a destination based upon the
7 comparing step.

1 2. The method for processing data in the processor with the
2 instruction, wherein the data is related to the array of elements as recited in claim 1,
3 wherein:
4 the first location and second location are source registers, and
5 the destination is a destination register.

1 3. The method for processing data in the processor with the
2 instruction, wherein the data is related to the array of elements as recited in claim 1,
3 wherein the first and second values are operands.

1 4. The method for processing data in the processor with the
2 instruction, wherein the data is related to the array of elements as recited in claim 1,
3 wherein the predetermined value is zero.

1 5. The method for processing data in the processor with the
2 instruction, wherein the data is related to the array of elements as recited in claim 1,
3 wherein the comparing step comprises determining if the array index is greater than or
4 equal to zero and less than a length of the array.

1 6. The method for processing data in the processor with the
2 instruction, wherein the data is related to the array of elements as recited in claim 1,
3 wherein the destination includes a base address for the array.

1 7. The method for processing data in the processor with the
2 instruction, wherein the data is related to the array of elements as recited in claim 1,
3 wherein the storing step further includes setting a flag.

